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BEFORE THE WESTERN WASHINGTON GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD

ADVOCATES FOR RESPONSIBLE
DEVELOPMENT, JOHN E. DIEHL, individually
and as a member of ADVOCATES FOR
RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT,

CASE NO. 05-2-0003

Petitioners,

ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR REVIEW

v.

MASON COUNTY,

Respondent.

This petition for review challenging some features of Mason County's resource ordinance and comprehensive land use plan was filed with the Board by facsimile and stamped received on January 25, 2005. According to the Petition for Review, notice of the adoption of Mason County Ordinance 106-04, amending the county's resource ordinance, was published by Mason County on November 25, 2004.

The Board issued a Notice of Hearing and Preliminary Schedule for this case on February 4, 2005. It was signed by Presiding Officer, Gayle Rothrock. Upon receipt of the Notice of Hearing, Petitioner Diehl contacted the Board to correct the date of filing. He advised the Board that filing on January 25, 2005 would be beyond the statutory deadline and that he had sent his petition for review to the Board by facsimile on January 24, 2005.

The Board's records reflect that the petition was filed on January 25, 2005. See attached Declaration of Patricia Davis, Executive Assistant to the Board. Rules, governing procedures for all Growth Management Hearings Boards, set forth in the Washington Administrative Code, require that a petition for review filed by facsimile must be *received* by the Board by 5:00 p.m. or the date of service will be the following day:

Fax: 360-664-8975

Filing of any documents with a board by electronic telefacsimile transmission is at the risk of the sender and shall not be deemed complete unless the following procedures are strictly observed:

(a) A facsimile document will only be stamped "received" by the board between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. Any transmission not completed before 5:00 pm will be stamped received on the following business day. The date and time indicated by the board's facsimile machine shall be presumptive evidence of the date and time of receipt of transmission.

WAC 242-02-240(2)(a)

The statute provides that: "All petitions....must be filed within sixty days after publication by the legislative bodies of the county or city." RCW 36.70A.290(2). In this case, the petition for review was filed sixty-one days after the date of publication.

The Presiding Officer sent a letter to petitioner Diehl, dated February 11, 2005, notifying him the Board could not continue processing the case since it was not timely filed. WAC 242-02-220, 240, and 522 and RCW 36.70A.290(3). The Declaration of Patricia Davis, Executive Assistant to the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board, was attached. A copy of the letter and attachment was sent to the Mason County Prosecuting Attorney. No evidence has been provided to the Board to indicate that the petition for review in this case was in fact timely filed.

ORDER

Since the petition for review was not timely filed, this matter is hereby DISMISSED.

Done this 22nd Day of February 2005.

Gayle Rothrock, Board Member

Holly Gadbaw, Board Member

Margery Hite, Board Member

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